

# IN THE LOOP

## THE DSP QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

### North Providence - Cultivating Student Growth in the Greenhouse



**RIDE** Rhode Island  
Department  
of Education

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### COMMISSIONER'S WELCOME

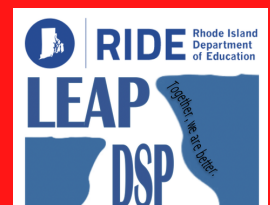
The second year of the LEAP District Support Program is well underway, and we are thrilled to be keeping the momentum from the first high-impact year. In addition to committing to a continuous improvement process, DSP districts have begun putting their ESSER III funds into tangible actions: staffing, extended day initiatives, MTSS support, family and community belonging programs, math tutoring and school building improvements. One example is Central Falls where their talented leaders have launched an extended day program for MLL students in grades K-12. Students engage in dynamic after-school programming three to five days per week to focus on language acquisition and improving literacy skills. Throughout this process, districts have remained flexible and reflective.

Each district's needs are unique, and investments reveal the expertise, triumphs and challenges of our LEAs.

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### This edition includes:

- In the Spotlight: North Providence - STEAM program
- Shout Out: E. Providence and Johnston
- SEL Corner: New feature!
- DSP Resources
- Inside RIDE: Meet Mike Mancieri, DSP Fellow



## SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL) CORNER



Click the links below to explore resources!

- Tabitha Watjen, East Providence's social emotional learning facilitator, has created several supports and programs around SEL. Check out her work:
  - [Snack Sized SEL](#)—A bite-sized, self-paced professional learning experience focused on supporting SEL in the classroom.
  - [Taking Care of You](#)—A biweekly publication that provides educator wellness tips and tools, and SEL classroom resources.
- [Using Culturally Responsive Project-Based Learning to Teach Core Skills in Middle School](#): One school used a PBL unit that combined science, math, and cooking dumplings to explore the many cultures that make up their community
- [Social & Emotional Learning \(SEL\) and RIDE](#)
  - RIDE's bank of resources are designed to promote social emotional growth. For example, videos on Promoting Kindness, creating a Virtual Calming Room and a [Self-management Video](#).

## DSP RESOURCES

- Teacher of the Year, Lisa Leaheey - Congratulations Lisa! As part of her work this year, Lisa is available to assist districts in an advisory capacity. Her areas of expertise include classroom technology integration, curriculum and instruction, professional development and more! Lisa can be reached at [Lisa.leaheey@ride.ri.gov](mailto:Lisa.leaheey@ride.ri.gov)
- Stay Informed! Join the [RIDE SEL Listserv - mResource](#)
- Contact us at OSDI for District Leadership Training & Supports at [OSDI@ride.ri.gov](mailto:OSDI@ride.ri.gov) for support with using data/helping districts shift gears in response to EAA, SIT Team composition, School Improvement planning/continuous improvement, and more!
- [Education Accountability Act](#) - Check out RIDE's resources for District Strategic and School Improvement planning. Materials include guidelines, templates, sample plans, and timelines.
- [Including Stakeholder Voices Template](#) - Communicate with your community. Customize RIDE's slide deck template to engage stakeholders in the school improvement planning process.



## IN THE SPOTLIGHT: NORTH PROVIDENCE - CULTIVATING STUDENT GROWTH IN THE GREENHOUSE:

North Providence's new greenhouse classroom is being recognized for its STEAM program at Birchwood Middle School. Contact Brian Gilmore M. Ed. Principal at Birchwood Middle School [brian.gilmore@npsd.k12.ri.us](mailto:brian.gilmore@npsd.k12.ri.us)



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## SHOUT OUTS!!



**East Providence** - Emily Rendine, a third grade teacher at Hennessy Middle School, was awarded the Milken Educator Award, which many consider to be the "Oscars of teaching."

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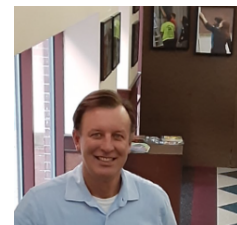
**Central Falls** - Alison Murray of Central Falls High School was the recipient of the 2022 RI STEAM Educator Award

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## INSIDE RIDE: DSP FELLOW MIKE MANCIERI

### Which districts do you support?

I work with Central Falls, Johnston, and Providence.



### What did you do before working at RIDE?

I was hired by Dr. Joyce Hindle Koutsogiane in 1995, and served as an English/Social Studies teacher at what is now McCourt Middle School in Cumberland. From there I moved to Portsmouth Middle School where I was mentored by a person I consider the most effective leaders I've ever worked with; Steve Desposito. I was the Assistant Principal for Vincent Giuliano (Principal) at Gaudet Middle School in Middletown starting in 2004. After serving as the Principal of Gaudet for three years (2011-14), I took my career in a different direction and had the honor of serving as the first Executive Director for Middle School sports (RIPCOA), which at the time was led by Joseph Amaral....

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